Campaign, Post Literacy Programme and Continuing Education Programmes.

Mahila Samakhya Programme is being implemented which builds capacities among group of women and contributes towards empowerment of women in rural areas particularly from socially and economically marginalised groups.

Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), education of girls is the primary focus. SSA recognizes the need for special efforts to bring out the school-girls especially from disadvantaged sections to schools. It also calls for involving women through participatory process in the effective management of schools. Some of the steps undertaken by the States under SSA are:—

(i) Setting up special models of Alternate Schools exclusively for girls.

(ii) Using self-help groups mainly comprising of women's groups, Village Education Centres, Mother Teacher Association, to follow up issues for girl's education.

(iii) Special efforts for improvement of access and enrolment, retention and achievement of girls.

Group C vacancies in NCERT

692. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per Government Policy, all the reserved vacancies of SCs, STs and OBCs should be filled up within a time bound programme; and

(b) if so, what is the latest status of Group C vacancies, which the NCERT had advertised in the Employment News dated the 19th Febuary, 2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHRIMATI RITA VERMA): (a) It has always been the effort of the Government to fill up vacancies reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs in a manner as expeditious as possible.

(b) The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) advertised for the posts of Assistant and Personal Assistant for the unreserved category as well as vacancies for SC/ST/OBC persons in Employment News of 19th February, 2000. The test for the posts of Assistant was conducted on 18.3.2001. The Hon'ble High Court has stayed action to fill up the vacancies of Assistant on a writ filed by the employees of the NCERT. As regard filling up the post of Personal Assistant, a test is scheduled to be conducted in January, 2002.

Yoga education in schools

†693. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to impart regular yoga education to children in schools all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) to (c) The National Curriculum Framework for School Education brought out by NCERT recommends yoga as a part of the health and physical education. The National Curriculum Framework has been circulated to all the State Governments/UTs for implementation of the suggestions made therein. However, the States/UTs have the freedom to adopt and adapt these curricular guidelines to develop their own syllabi and curricular materials.

History books of NCERT

†694. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.